

The ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

June 1992



Members Meetings

Mayan Mysteries in Guatemala

with Dr. Richard Hansen

June 10, 2 & 7:30 pm, June 11, 7:30 pm



Upright fragment from Mayan site

Dr. Richard Hansen, directing a team of archaeologists from UCLA, discovered an ancient Mayan city in the North Peten region of Guatemala in 1989.

This city had laid hidden for more than 2,400 years and scientists have already uncovered more than 90 stone pyramids, other buildings and more than six hundred artifacts. "This find shows that the advances which created one of the most sophisticated pre-Columbian societies in the new world may have occurred much earlier than we previously assumed," Dr. Hansen says. Using carbon 14 dating, the ruins have been dated between 400 B.C. and 630 B.C., making it the earliest major center of Mayan civilization yet discovered.

To reach the site, scientists have to travel 60 miles by four-wheel drive vehicles and then trek three days by foot on a narrow path through an uninhabited rain forest. When the Mayans flourished, this area was crossed with giant roads—45 feet wide and constructed of stone, mortar and limestone.



Richard Hansen plots details of excavation

Enjoy this exclusive opportunity to hear Dr. Richard Hansen describe this mysterious, ancient world. **Summer Members Meetings will be for the whole family! Oriented towards children, join us on July 8th and 9th, and in August on the 12th and 13th for a fun look at science!**

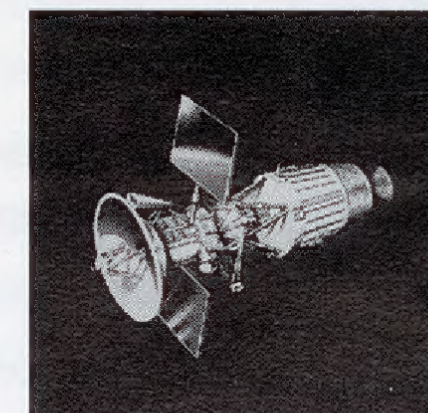
Cocolat Sunday at the Academy

June 7, 11 am - 3 pm

Come to the biggest chocolate Sunday ever! On Sunday, June 7, from 11 am to 3 pm, kids are invited to a series of chocolate events that will tame their wildest chocolate fantasies.

Come to the Whale Courtyard and *Cocolat* will help you create a chocolate rainforest with piped-chocolate or mold you own chocolate dinosaurs out of milk chocolate. Meet "COCO the dino" and color your free dinosaur coloring book. **There will be an animal costume parade and contest at 1 pm with Cocolat prizes for the winners.** At 1:30, Dr. Tom Daniel of the Academy's Botany department will describe how chocolate is grown, harvested, prepared in the field and then processed. There will be chocolate demonstrations for kids and parents to watch. It will be a delightful and delicious day for all!

Sky Shows



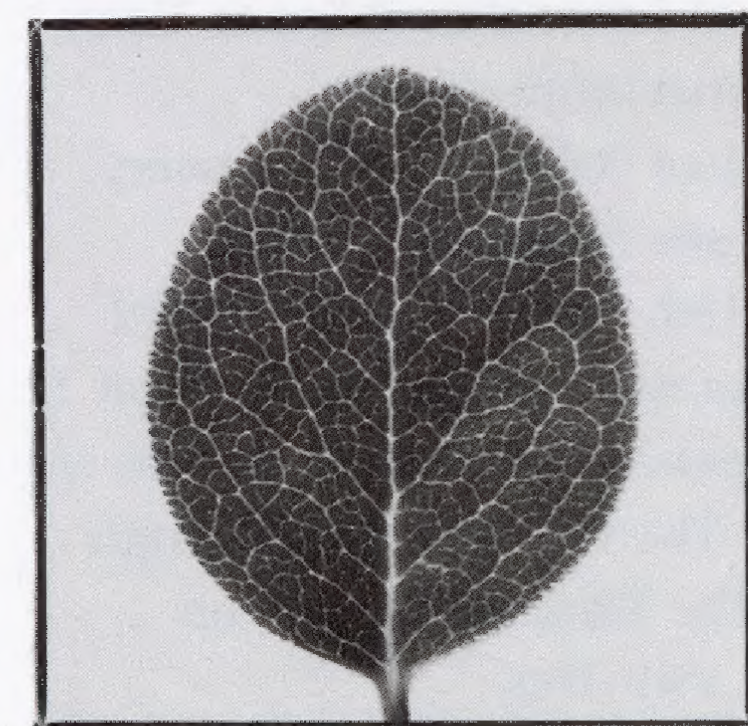
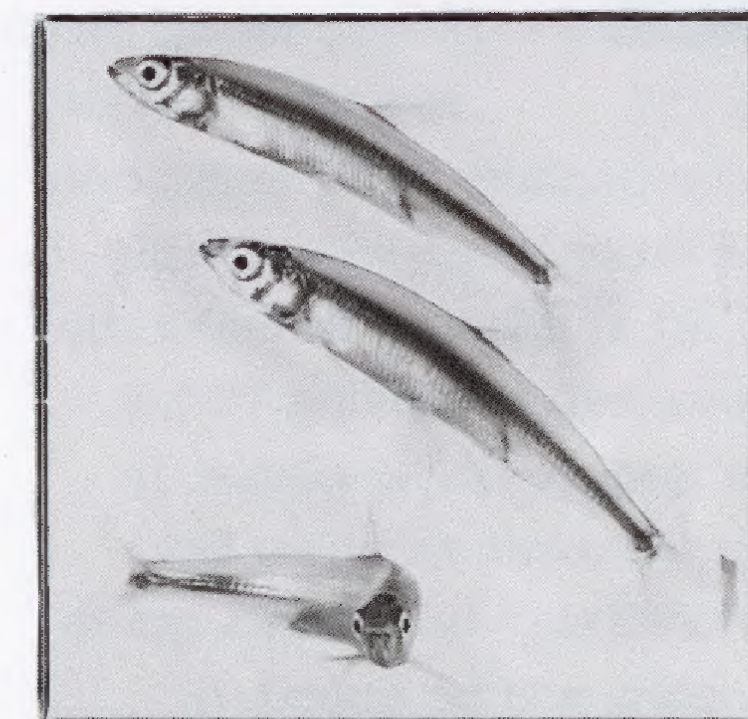
Magellan Spacecraft

How many years elapsed between the voyages of Columbus and Magellan? Many people would claim "less than 50," and

they would be partially right. Astronomy buffs, on the other hand, would reply "500 years," for at this very moment the Magellan spacecraft is orbiting Venus, mapping the surface of the planet. In the Morrison Planetarium's new Sky Show, "Explorations," humanity's quest for new horizons will be traced. In celebration of International Space Year, this new Planetarium show commemorates 500 years of discovery. This show runs from June 19th to September 13th. Shows are presented daily at 2 pm with additional shows at 1, 3 & 4 on weekends. The current feature, "Who's Out There?" continues through June 14th. The Planetarium will be closed June 15th-18th.

Exhibit

ENDANGERED



© Susan Middleton, David Liitschwager

For the first time in its history, the Academy is offering a thematic approach to viewing the museum in its entirety. With the opening of ENDANGERED, Academy visitors can enjoy an audio tour of the main floor which examines the exhibit halls following one common and crucial theme—the plight and status of endangered species.

Utilizing the expertise of Academy research scientists, visitors can travel through exhibit halls of Africa, Mexico, Costa Rica, and California. The voices of our own scientists describe their work in these fragile habitats and discuss the importance of preserving biodiversity. Through this tour, the Academy's permanent exhibits are enhanced. For example, threats to the world's coral reefs are discussed in front of the Steinhart's coral reef tank, and the food ways of Native Americans are described in Wattis Hall of Human Cultures.

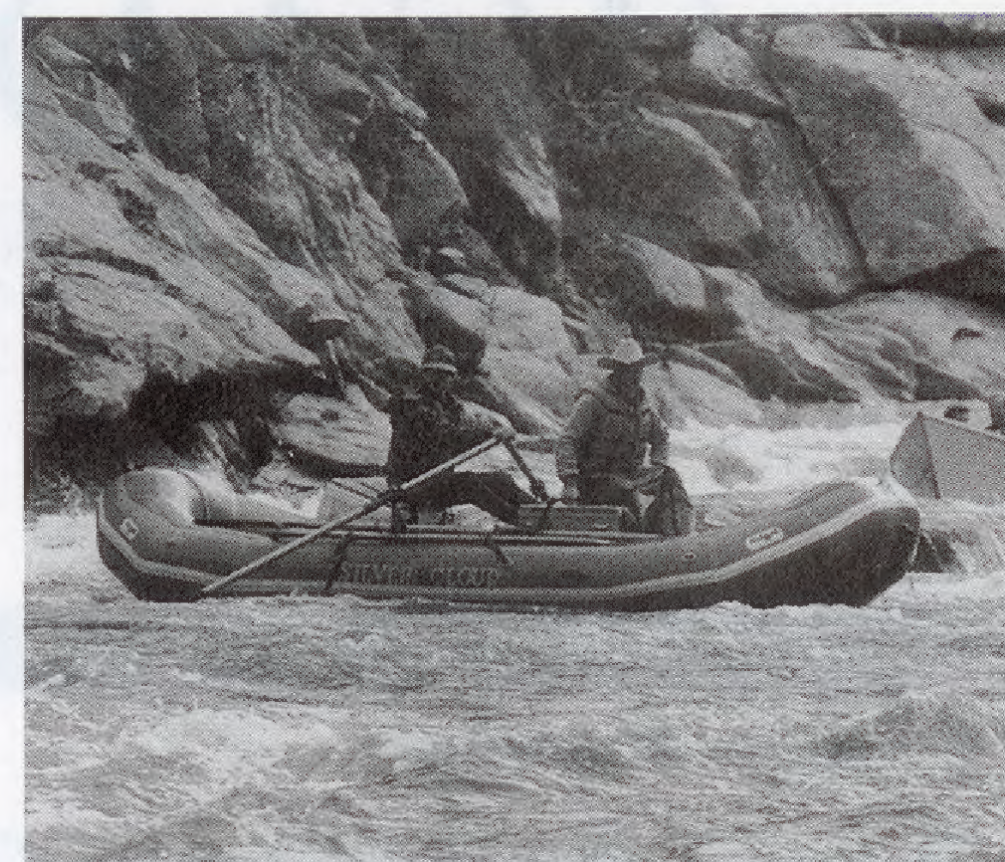
A special exhibit area features the unique ecosystem of cloud forests. Striking photos, descriptive text and Academy specimens illustrate the special terrain of these areas and the richness of the cultures there. Turning off the audio tour for a few minutes allows you to enjoy a specially designed mini-theatre showcasing exciting environmental videos.

This new exhibit also addresses the importance of the Endangered Species Act. Academy scientists help explain some of the complexities of the Act and the importance of saving habitat and species. Special signage will label all of the federally listed endangered species featured on the main floor of the museum. This signage will be regularly updated and become a permanent part of the visitor's experience. The exhibit will debut the newest photographs by Susan Middleton and David Liitschwager. Susan and David are currently in the process of documenting 100 federally listed North American endangered species.

Stop by the Information Desk to find out more about this exciting audio tour and enjoy a new perspective of the Academy.

ENDANGERED is funded by the generous contributions of The Gap Foundation, The Dean Witter Foundation and Mr. William Fries II.

Academy Travel



Salmon River Rafting

Here are two fun-filled and educational trips!

SALMON RIVER RAFTING

July 6-12, 1992

Join Greg deNevers on Idaho's beautiful, wild and scenic Salmon River. Exciting rapids, ancient Indian pictographs and pioneer cabins dot the canyon, where sightings of big-horn sheep, elk and bear are not uncommon. Exhilarating—but safe—whitewater, deep green pools and large sandy beaches for warm water swimming and leisurely side canyon hiking provide unforgettable beauty and adventure. Oar and paddle rafts and inflatable kayaks cater to all levels of expertise. Hearty campfire cooking. \$990 plus transportation to Boise. (Suitable for ages 6 years and up and 10% discount for children 6-16.)

ADVENTURING IN ANASAZI COUNTRY

October 3-11, 1992

Anthropologist, Kendra Bowers, and Academy geologist, Jean DeMouthe, provide wonderful insights into the fascinating Southwest. Highlights include: Monument Valley, Mesa Verde National Park, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, Ute Mountain Tribal Park, Aztec Ruins National Monument and the stunning narrow gauge railroad journey from Durango to Silverton. Hotel-based touring. \$1550 plus transportation to Durango. Call (415)750-7222 for more information about these and other trips.

Dear Member:

This has been a wonderful year at the Academy. Beautiful exhibits, new programs and a spirit of experimentation are creating a great future. Gifts from members to the Annual Fund make all of this possible. Our Annual Fund campaign ends June 30th.

Please be a part of it by sending your gift—of any size—in this special envelope. Thank you for your support!

With gratitude,

Lyman H. Casey
Annual Fund Chair

The Eastwood Associates

The Eastwood Associates was created to recognize the generosity and foresight of individuals who provide for the future of the Academy through their estate plans. We are honored to acknowledge these members:

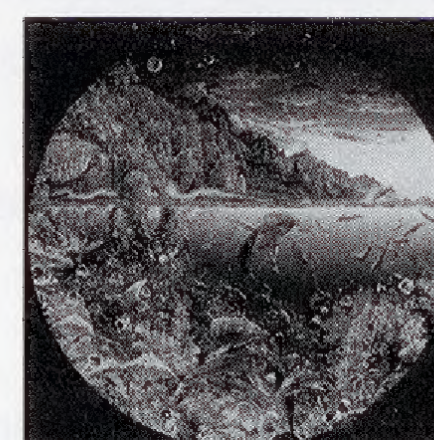
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Ruth and Jack Shnyder
Mrs. Marjorie Silver
Ms. Clare Springs



Alice Eastwood, Curator of Botany
(photo: 1912)

Mr. Marshall Steel, Jr.
Mrs. Shirley Victor
Helen von Ammon
Dr. Robert T. Wallace
Dr. and Mrs. Elwood C. Zimmerman

We invite you to join the Eastwood Associates by notifying us that you have included the Academy in your plans. May we welcome you as a new member? For information about membership benefits or about providing for the future of the Academy, please call or write: Carol Pollock, Planned Gift Consultant, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118 (415)750-7216.



Robert Lyn Nelson

Steinhart Benefit featuring Robert Lyn Nelson

June 26, 6-9 pm

In cooperation with Lahaina Galleries, renowned underwater artist, Robert Lyn Nelson, will be at the Academy's Steinhart Aquarium on Friday, June 26th, for a special poster signing and reception to benefit the Aquarium. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet this noted artist.

The reception costs \$35 and proceeds will benefit the Steinhart's Endangered Species Breeding Program. Posters of Robert Lyn Nelson's work will be available for purchase. Signed posters will be \$35 and personalized posters will be \$50. Please use the order form to order tickets.

Steinhart Benefit with Robert Lyn Nelson Friday, June 26th, 6-9 pm

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Daytime Phone _____
Number of Tickets \$35 _____
Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____
Please send your check payable to the California Academy of Sciences.
Steinhart Benefit
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

Free First Wednesday



Kulintang Arts

The Free First Wednesday evening program on June 3 celebrates Filipino heritage with an evening of family fun. All events, except food, are free.

- 5-8 pm Enjoy a light supper of Filipino food at the Manila Cafe and listen to the music and dance of Kulintang Arts.
- 5-8 pm Join us in a special hands-on project featuring Filipino arts. HOHFELD HALL.
- 5-8 pm Visit the BIODIVERSITY RESOURCE CENTER.
- 6-6:30 pm Join the fun of storytelling, games and a short movie as the Academy's Science-in-Action interns perform "In Celebration of Trees." SCIENCE-IN-ACTION BOOTH
- 6-8 pm Come to the DISCOVERY ROOM for interactive exhibits from the world of nature.
- 6:30 pm Concert Under the Stars. MORRISON PLANETARIUM.
- 7:00 pm Enjoy an informal presentation on the natural wonders of the Phillippines by Beatrice Duran. The program includes a challenging, hands-on shell game. HOHFELD HALL.

These programs are made possible through the Bernard Osher Foundation.

Stay Tuned...
Members
Open House is
October 14 & 15

Lecture "Saving Caribbean Species"

June 4, 7:30 pm

By the 1970's, on the Caribbean island of St. Lucia, a spectacular endemic parrot was disappearing due to habitat destruction and apathy about the environment. Thanks to the energetic efforts of an English ornithologist-turned-marketeer, the parrot has become the national bird of St. Lucia and is making a comeback.

Paul Butler, through "Conservation Education for the Caribbean," the program he directs for RARE (Rare Animal Rescue Effort) Center for Tropical Conservation, has helped local counterparts on eight Caribbean islands "sell" the idea of conservation to all segments of their islands' populations.

In this lecture, Mr. Butler will outline his strategy of "marketing" conservation. Tickets are \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. Please call 750-7128 for ticket information.

June is Zoo and Aquarium Month... June 6 is Conservation Day!

All across the country, people will be celebrating Zoo and Aquarium Month during the month of June. Be sure to stop by the Academy to enjoy all the wonderful exhibits at the Steinhart Aquarium. On Conservation Day, June 6th, there will be a children's make-and-take activity available and, at 1:30, the Science-in-Action booth will feature a special presentation about endangered species. Be sure to catch the special zoo and aquarium news briefs on KTVU-Channel 2 "Kids Town" programs. The Steinhart's penguins will be featured as well as the endangered San Francisco garter snake.

Traditional Arts



Taiko Drumming

Enjoy cultures from around the world with the Academy's Traditional Arts Program. All programs take place on Saturdays at 1 pm in Wattis Hall or Morrison Auditorium and are free after general admission. Call June Anderson at 750-7164 for more information.

June 20 - Gary Tsujimoto and Nancy Ozaki perform Japanese *taiko* drumming – an energetic style that incorporates dance and martial arts movements to accentuate the rhythm. Instruments include the large *taiko* drum, the smaller *okedo* and *shime* drums, and the *yokubue* bamboo flute.

June 27 - Wearing authentic traditional costumes, the Peruvian Folklore Dance Company presents a selection of dances from Peru. As a finale, the group will teach members of the audience a few simple dance steps.

Young Audiences

Once a month, during the school year, Young Audiences of the Bay Area presents entertaining programs at the California Academy of Sciences' Morrison Auditorium. On June 7th, at 1 pm, enjoy classical and folk dances from China through the exquisite dancing of Lily Cai. A principle dancer with the Shanghai Opera House for eight years, Ms. Cai uses select costumes and dance movements to illustrate the unique differences between regional cultures of China.

Exhibit

CELEBRATE! CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL ARTS

July 4 through January 3, 1993

CELEBRATE! CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL ARTS brings the visual splendor and rich cultural heritage of festivals from the Caribbean region to the Academy. The Caribbean Islands have a fascinating and complex history. Beginning five hundred years ago, Europeans and Africans converged onto these islands, each group bringing its own religions and festivals.

This exciting exhibit focuses on three Caribbean Festivals: *Jonkonnu*, *Carnival* and *Hosay*. It incorporates dazzling and intricate costumes and

masks from 10 Caribbean countries and some locally made costumes as well. Video tapes and musical

recordings show actual festival events. Specimens

from the Academy's collections will highlight the natural history of the area.

Join us on July 11th for our own little *Carnival* celebration. The Caribbean

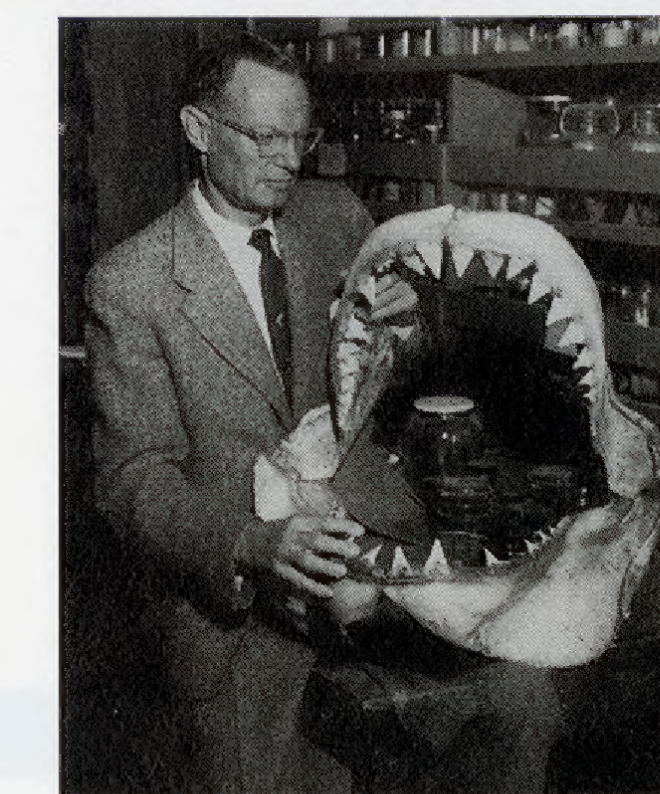
Cultural Association will help us present a special all-day program featuring steel drums, dance, food preparation, storytelling and crafts. The finale will include a procession of dance and music.

In Memorial Wilbur Irving Follett

March 10, 1902 - March 13, 1992

The Academy was saddened by the recent death of W.I. (Bill) Follett. Bill had a long and active association with the Academy. He was Acting Curator of Ichthyology until 1969, when he became Curator Emeritus. After his retirement, he continued his research on California fishes and fish remains from Indian middens. His work at the Academy was a passionate avocation, as he practiced law in Oakland and came in when his practice allowed.

He was an authority in zoological nomenclature and served on the nomenclature committees of the Society of Systematic Zoology and the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, and was a delegate to the Colloquium on Zoological Nomenclature at the University of Copenhagen. He was held in high esteem by his ichthyological colleagues



who elected him president of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in 1969. He was elected a Fellow of the California Academy of Sciences in 1952 and awarded the Academy's Distinguished Service Medal in 1989 for his meritorious service and support of the institution.

A memorial fund is being set up in Bill's name that will be used to support visiting students and scientists. For more information, call the Department of Ichthyology at 750-7047.

Adult Education

Enjoy one or several of a great selection of Adult Education classes this summer. Call 750-7100 for more information.

Painting Water with Watercolor

Capture the life and beauty of water with paintbrush and watercolors. The constantly changing abstract patterns of water will be the theme of this two-day workshop in Golden Gate Park with Vesta Kirby. June 27 & 28, 10 am-4 pm. \$75 members/\$85 non-members.

Backpacking for Beginners

Learn how to truly be comfortable in the wilderness with Joe Mueller as your guide. We'll cover five miles daily along easy paths in the Central Sierra where lakes, streams and wildlife abound. July 10-12. \$95 members/\$110 non-members (Does not include backpacking gear, transportation and food.)

Lassen Volcanic National Park

Join our botanist, Barry Anderson and geologist, Jean DeMouthe on this four-day trip to Mt. Lassen. Learn about the formation of mountains, cinder cones, steam vents and mud pots. In mid-July, the meadows should be filled with mountain flowers. We'll stay at Lassen Mineral Lodge and hike daily on moderately strenuous trails. July 16-19. \$250 members/\$300 non-members. (Includes transportation, double accommodations, and three box lunches.)

A Caribbean Night July 18, 8 pm - 2 am

The Academy's first annual summertime gala, "A Caribbean Night," will feature high-energy entertainment and fun! Tropical black-tie or Caribbean costumes will be the fashion of the evening. The food will feature bountiful Caribbean cuisine, spicy salsa, thirst-quenching rum punch, fruit juices, wine and Caribbean beer. Entertainment will be lively and plentiful with the compelling sounds and dances of the islands. Tickets for this tropical gala are \$55 per person. For more information please contact the Development Office at 750-7216. Proceeds benefit Academy science education programs for children.

*Time Dated Material
Please Expedite*

June 1992

Ms. Cecile Reichert
1831 Moraga St.
San Francisco, CA 94122-4319

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Calendar of Events

June

- 3 Free First Wednesday, 5-8 pm
- 4 Lecture, "Caribbean Conservation," 7:30 pm
- 6 Conservation Day at the Academy
- 7 Cocolat Sunday at the Academy, 11 am - 3 pm
- 7 Young Audiences, 1 pm
- 10 Members' Meetings, 2 & 7:30 pm
- 11 Members' Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 19 New Planetarium Show Opens, "Explorations"
- 20 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 26 Steinhart Benefit with Robert Lyn Nelson, 6-9 pm
- 27 Traditional Arts, 1 pm

July

- 4 CELEBRATE! CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL ARTS opens
- 8 Members' Meetings, 2 & 7:30 pm
- 9 Members' Meetings, 7:30 pm
- 11 *Carnival* at the Academy, 11 am - 4 pm
- 18 Caribbean Gala, 8 pm-2 am

August

- 12 Members' Meetings, 2 & 7:30 pm
- 13 Members' Meeting, 7:30 pm

The Academy Store

**The Academy Store
salutes
Father's Day
for the month
of June.**



**TAKE 20% OFF ANY PAIR OF BINOCULARS
WITH THIS COUPON!**

(Coupon expires 6/30/92)



*Also, there will be a
special binocular
demonstration on
Saturday, June 13th
from 10 am - 2 pm.*